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Announcement

¶The purchase of Alaska has been one of the enigmas in American diplomatic history. Mr. Farrar's article on Joseph Lane McDonald brings to view a participant in the early transactions, who has been strangely overlooked in former discussions. The purchase now seems less spontaneous—more of economics and less of diplomacy.

¶In the "News Department" will be found an announcement on behalf of the Eastern Washington State Historical Society.

¶Future writers on railroad development in the Pacific Northwest will find the drudgery of research greatly reduced by the bibliography prepared by Miss Cordz.

¶The names of two authorities in Northwest history—C. B. Bagley and Thomas W. Prosch—are brought forward in this *Quarterly* through recent enrichment of the University of Washington Library.